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The Economic Bulletin

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PERSONAL AND MISCELLANEOUS NOTES¹

The celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the American Economic Association will be held in New York during the next Christmas holidays, in conjunction with a similar celebration of the American Historical Society. At the opening meeting the President of the United States, the Junior Senator from New York and the Mayor of the City will participate in the proceedings. On Tuesday the presidential addresses will be delivered. Professor Seligman is chairman and Professor Lindsay vice-chairman of the Celebration Committee representing the American Economic Association.

The Economic Club of Brockton, Massachusetts, one of the most active and influential clubs outside of the larger cities, has just closed a successful season. It has a large membership, including many of the most prominent professional and business men in that section. The attendance at its four meetings has varied from 150 to 200. Its December meeting resulted in the appointment

¹ Each number of the BULLETIN will contain a department of Personal and Miscellaneous Notes. These notes will cover recent appointments to academic, governmental and other scientific positions in the field of economics; announcements of scientific investigations being made, of meetings of learned societies; and notices of other events of interest to economists.

The success of this feature of the BULLETIN will depend largely upon the support given it by economic students throughout the country; and the editors earnestly solicit the coöperation of all members of the Association. Notes should be sent to the Managing Editor as early as possible, and wherever practicable should be written on the ordinary 3 x 5 index card. The next number of the BULLETIN will go to press about August 1.

of a committee to study and report upon Principles and Methods of Economical Government in a City of Fifty Thousand Inhabitants; its March meeting, which was devoted to the subject of Industrial Education, resulted in a resolution being passed by the City Government authorizing the mayor (one of the club's vice-presidents) to appoint a committee of nine to report on a Shoe School for Brockton. Seven of the nine members of the committee are members of the club, and Judge Warren A. Reed, the president of the club, is the chairman. At the February meeting the subject of discussion was the controversy between the Boot and Shoe Makers' Union and the W. L. Douglas Shoe Company; and at the April meeting the subject was Action by Congress upon the Tariff. The secretary of the club is Albert M. Rollins.

The Bulletin de Colonisation Comparée published at Brussels, recently added to its editorial staff the following students of Colonial problems in the United States:

Paul Charlton, Jacob H. Hollander, Alleyne Ireland, E. W. Kemmerer, H. Parker Willis and James T. Young.

Prof. John B. Clark and Horace White were appointed by Governor Hughes, as members of the committee to investigate the Stock and Produce Exchanges. The report is soon to be published.

Series of lectures on Sanitary Science and Public Health were delivered during the academic year just closed at both Columbia and Cornell Universities.

Warren B. Catlin (Ph.D., Columbia, 1909) and Walter A. Lagerquist (Ph.D., Yale, 1909) have been appointed instructors in economics in Cornell University.

Stuart Daggett, whose monograph on Railway Reorganization was reviewed in the December number of the BULLETIN, has been appointed assistant professor at the University of California.

The city of Denver is trying an important experiment in municipal education in running a weekly paper to keep the people

of the city informed of what is being done. *Denver Facts* is its title. It is intelligently edited and illustrated and ought to be of considerable help in creating a sound and effective public sentiment in that city.

G. Lowes Dickinson, of King's College, University of Cambridge, delivered the Ingersoll lecture upon The Immortality of Man at Harvard University in the month of April, and gave also a course of three lectures upon Ideals of Democracy.

The Survey-Social-Charitable-Civic is the new name with which *Charities and the Commons* was rechristened with its issue of April 3. A change of title was made desirable because, as the editors explained, to many new readers the term *Charities* proved a stumbling block, even in some cases a synonym for free soup and old clothes. The scope and plan of the periodical, and the staff, remain unchanged.

John Andrews Fitch, of the Pittsburgh Survey, fellow in political economy this year at the University of Wisconsin, has accepted an appointment as expert in the New York State Bureau of Labor Statistics. His doctoral thesis is: Labor in the Iron and Steel Industry.

The Constitutional Position of Property in America, by President Hadley is the title of Circular I issued under the general head of Privilege *vs.* Democracy published by the Committee to Inquire into the Status of Democracy. This committee is a self-constituted one, devoting its attention particularly to "an examination of the constitutional, statutory, political and professional bulwarks of privilege, and to an examination of the causes leading to the perversion of representative government and the gradual entrenchment of an aristocracy of property in this country."

The International Institute of Sociology will hold its seventh congress at the University of Berne, Switzerland, July 20 to 24. Social solidarity will be the principal topic of discussion. The general secretary of the Institute is M. René Worms, director of the *Revue Internationale de Sociologie*, whose address is 115

Boulevard Saint Germain, Paris, and to whom all communications relative to the congress should be sent. Among the American members who will attend are Lester F. Ward and C. W. A. Veditz.

The Third International Conference on State and Local Taxation will be held under the auspices of the International Tax Association in Louisville, Kentucky, September 21-24, 1909.

The Japanese Association for Social Enlightenment has lately published in one volume a translation of Ely's *Socialism and Social Reform* by Prof. I. Abe, with a biographical sketch of the author by Dr. Y. Schiozawa; and a translation of Le Rossignol's *Orthodox Socialism* by Y. Inonye, a graduate student of the University of Nebraska, with an introduction by Prof. Massao Kambe, of the Imperial University of Kyoto.

The Association was established in March, 1908, for the purpose of introducing translations of American and European works chiefly on social and economic subjects. The president of the Association is Count Okuma and the membership already numbers 10,000. It is estimated that about fifty volumes will be issued during the next three years. The present volume is No. 4 of the series. No. 5 will be a translation of Loria's *Economic Foundations of Society*.

In the May number of the *American Political Science Review*, in the department, Notes on Current Legislation, there are two timely articles: one, by Mr. John A. Lapp, on legislation relating to uniform public accounting and state supervision of accounts, and one by Robert Argyle Campbell, who gives a complete account of state constitutional provisions relating to taxation which were voted upon at the general election in 1908.

Don D. Lescohier, who receives his doctor's degree at the University of Wisconsin this year, has been appointed special agent of the Minnesota Bureau of Labor. He will have the direction of all special investigations and will give particular attention during the next two years to the subjects of industrial accidents and employer's liability.

Prof. W. C. Mitchell, who has been teaching at Harvard University during the current year, will resume his work at the University of California in 1909-10.

Dr. Frank L. McVey, recently chairman of the Minnesota State Tax Commission, will enter upon his duties as president of the University of North Dakota in August.

The Present Status of Instruction in Municipal Government in the Universities and Colleges of the United States is the subject of a report of the Committee on the Coördination of Instruction in Municipal Government just issued by the National Municipal League. It sets forth in detail the extent to which instruction is given on this subject in American educational institutions, and recounts what is being done along the line of improving the methods of instruction which now show no approach to uniformity, although there is a commendable and widespread interest in the whole question.

The Municipal Home Rule Charters is the title of a bulletin just issued by the Legislative Reference Department of the Wisconsin Library Commission. It is prepared by Miss Margaret A. Schaffner and deals, first, with the scope of the home-rule movement; secondly, with laws and judicial decisions bearing on the subject, and thirdly, with procedure in charter making under those constitutions which have home-rule provisions.

Henry Raymond Mussey, of the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed adjunct professor of economics in Barnard College. In addition to his duties at Barnard College he will give two courses in Columbia University.

Prof. H. L. Moore gives up his work at Barnard College and will devote more of his time to the completion of a large work on economic and statistical theory on which he has long been engaged. He will spend the coming year abroad pursuing his scientific researches in England and France.

A committee under the chairmanship of John Hays Hammond has been appointed by the National Civic Federation to organize

a council of one hundred representative men in each state to coöperate in an effort to secure more uniformity of state laws with reference to capital and labor.

The Pittsburgh Civic Commission, appointed by Mayor Guthrie at the meeting of the National Municipal League and the American Civic Association, November last, has secured Allen T. Burns as secretary. Mr. Burns has for two and a half years been a resident of Chicago Commons and Vice-President of the School of Civics and Philanthropy. This and other similar experiences qualify him for useful work in the Pittsburgh Commission.

The Public Service Commission for the First District of New York has issued an important report on The Indeterminate Franchise for Public Utilities, prepared by Dr. Milo R. Maltbie.

A new journal, *Prehistorische Zeitschrift*, is to be published by the German Society for Anthropology and Ethnology.

T. J. Riley, assistant professor of sociology at the University of Missouri, has accepted a position for next year as head of the new department of sociology in Washington University. The St. Louis School of Philanthropy, which has hitherto been affiliated with the University of Missouri, will at the same time become affiliated with Washington University.

The May number of the *Review of Reviews* contains a table of announcements of scientific, professional and business conferences to be held during the calendar year 1909.

Among those mentioned which are of interest to economists are the following:

American Association for the Advancement of Science, Boston, December 27; American Bar Association, Detroit, Mich., August 24-27; American Public Health Association, Richmond, Va., October; National Conference of Charities and Corrections, Buffalo, N. Y., June 9-16; National Municipal League, Cincinnati, Ohio, November 15-20; American Federation of Labor, Toronto, Canada, November 8.

James E. LeRossignol, professor of economics in the University of Nebraska, will return in September to his former position in the University of Denver.

B. M. Rastall, assistant professor of economics, University of Minnesota, has been appointed associate professor of business administration, in the University of Wisconsin. He will have charge of university extension work in the business field and will give courses at the university as well as throughout the state. Mr. Rastall took his advanced degree from the University of Wisconsin. He was for a while director of the department of applied economics at Olivet College, and spent a year as economic expert for the New York State Department of Labor.

At the March meeting of the Société d'Economie Politique of France the proposed changes in the tariff was the subject of discussion. The report of the tariff commission was reviewed by Mr. Schelle, and the tendency to increase duties at a time when France needs to extend her foreign trade was deplored. It was claimed that while the projected tariff would be disastrous for England, it would be still more so for France. The Society hopes that the influence of the economists may prevent some of the more disadvantageous planks from becoming law.

Rufus D. Smith, instructor in economics at Cornell University, has accepted a position with the Associated Charities of Pittsburgh.

Prof. William G. Sumner will retire from active teaching at Yale University at the end of the present academic year, and will be placed upon the emeritus list. He has been professor at Yale University since 1872.

A Russian translation of Professor Seligman's *Essays in Taxation* has just appeared from the pen of Professor Friedmann, of St. Petersburg.

Mr. Archibald Wellington Taylor has been appointed instructor in economics and history at Purdue University. Mr. Taylor served for some time as principal of the Puget Sound Academy,

and then as superintendent of the city schools of Ritzville, Washington. He was a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin, holding a scholarship in economics, until taking his present position.

The University of Wisconsin has recently received the gift of the economic library of the late Prof. Frank Parsons, of Boston. It is said to contain a number of valuable works relating to economic conditions in New Zealand.

G. O. Virtue, who has been stationed at the State Normal School at Winona, Minnesota, has accepted a professorship of economics at the University of Nebraska.

On the 10th of June the University of Lausanne will celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of Professor Walras. A bronze medallion will be placed upon the facade of the Academy bearing an inscription recalling the eminent services rendered to economic science by Professor Walras, the founder of the School of Lausanne.

Gustavus A. Weber, statistical expert and chief of the division of research and law of the United States Bureau of Labor, has been appointed superintendent of the Octavia Hill Association of Philadelphia, a model housing enterprise.

Ben F. Wright, special agent of the Bureau of Corporations, has resigned to accept a position as bank examiner in the California state service.

The weekly magazine *The Living Church* announces for 1909 a department of Social Welfare under the editorship of Clinton Rogers Woodruff.

Carroll Davidson Wright, president of Clark College, died at his home in Worcester, Mass., February 20, 1909.

Mr. Wright was born of New England parents at Dunbarton, N. H., in 1840. He was denied the advantages of a college train-

ing, and at an early age began the study of law. At twenty-two he enlisted as a private in the Fourteenth New Hampshire Volunteers and at the close of the war he returned to his home as colonel in command of the regiment in which he had enlisted as a private. In 1871 and again in 1872 he was elected to the Massachusetts Senate. His career as a lawyer and legislator was permanently ended in 1873, when he accepted the appointment as Chief of the new Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor. In the face of much hostile criticism he refused to convert this new state mechanism into an engine for partisan propaganda, and he set out to make investigations that should search for and find the truth in the interest of all classes alike. It thus fell to Colonel Wright to blaze the pathway in a new field of governmental investigation in the United States. In 1885 he was appointed United States Commissioner of Labor, and this position he filled with great efficiency for twenty years. Avoiding the polemics of the labor question he directed the energies of the bureau into the investigation of the economic conditions surrounding labor, and the study of methods for promoting the welfare of the working classes. By his wise and conservative course he greatly advanced the material interests of both organized and unorganized labor.

Colonel Wright was entrusted by President Cleveland with the task of completing the eleventh census after Superintendent Porter's resignation; he was chairman of the committee to investigate the great Chicago strike of 1899; he was the trusted adviser of President Roosevelt in matters relating to the anthracite coal strike of 1902; and was later appointed recorder of the arbitration tribunal which settled that strike. In 1905 he resigned the position of Commissioner of Labor to accept the presidency of Clark College, and this position he held until his death.

Colonel Wright's two best known books are *The Industrial Evolution of the United States*, and *An Outline of Practical Sociology*. He contributed many articles to our best periodicals, and was a frequent lecturer on economic subjects in American universities. During his later years he devoted much of his time to the supervision of *The Economic History of the United States*, which is being prepared under the auspices of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

President Wright was a man of great tact, of pleasing personality, and of a high sense of justice. It was common for his friends and students, in analyzing the spirit pervading his work, to speak of him as an optimist. He possessed a radiant faith in humanity and in the orderly evolution of human society. S. N. D. N.

